

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY  
AUGUST 4, 2021**

**ITEM 8**

**SUBJECT**

BOARD WORKSHOP ON A PROPOSED GENERAL ORDER FOR CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION AND WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR RESTORATION PROJECTS STATEWIDE AND SUPPORTING DRAFT PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT.

**DISCUSSION**

On June 30, the State Water Resource Control Board released a notice of opportunity for public comment and public workshop for the proposed Order for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Waste Discharge Requirements for Restoration Projects Statewide (Statewide Restoration General Order) and the supporting draft California Environmental Quality Act Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). The Statewide Restoration General Order establishes a streamlined permit process for specific types of environmentally beneficial restoration activities, including actions such as stream passage improvements, bank stabilization, floodplain restoration and water conservation projects. The Statewide Restoration General Order is proposed to work in tandem with other similar general permitting actions at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife and other agencies. Comments will be accepted at the public workshop on August 4. The comment period closes on August 13, 2021.

**POLICY ISSUE**

This is a public workshop for the State Water Board to receive oral comments on the proposed Statewide Restoration General Order and supporting draft PEIR. The Board will not be taking any action on the proposed General Order at the public workshop.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The State Water Board will not be taking any action, so there is no fiscal impact.

**REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT**

The State Water Board will not be taking any action, so there is no impact on the Regional Boards at this time.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

No staff recommendation is made at this time. The State Water Board will receive oral comments but will not take any action at the workshop.